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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pocket lighter of the present invention comprises a gas container having an outlet valve through which ignitable gas is released. An igniter device having a reciprocative plunger is also provided. The igniter device is operative to produce a spark when the plunger is axially moved. A thumb actuator is operative to cause opening of the outlet valve and axial movement of the reciprocative plunger, thereby producing a controlled flame. The pocket lighter is constructed and arranged such that at least ten pounds of force is required to operate the thumb actuator.